Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 04430 252346Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 ONY-00 /028 W
----------119458 260849Z /10
R 250940Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1296

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4430

EA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (BRZEZINSKI, ZBIGNIEW), KS
SUBJECT: BRZEZINSKI VISIT

1. FROM OUR VIEWPOINT HERE IN SEOUL, VISIT BY DR. BRZEZINSKI AND PARTY WENT VERY WELL INDEED. PARTY ARRIVED ON SCHEDULE AT 1300 HOURS MAY 24 AND WAS MET BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER. PARTY SPENT REMAINDER OF DAY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS FROM EMBASSY AND MILITARY COMMAND AND ON TOUR OF I CORPS AND ROK POSITIONS SOUTH OF DMZ. RECEPTION THAT EVENING PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH CORSS SECTION OF KOREAN COMMUNITY. ONLY BLEMISH ON RECEPTION WAS REPORT TO PRESS BY OPPOSITION LEADER YI CHUL-SUNG OF CONTENTS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI, MR. HOLBROOKE, AND MR. GLEYSTEEN. CONTENTS OF DISCUSSIONS THEMSELVES CAUSED NO PROBLEM BUT BREACH OF COURTESY BY YI HAS NOT GONE UNREMARKED IN EITHER AMERICAN OR KOREAN COMMUNITY.

2. ON MAY 25 DR. BRZEZINSKI MADE BRIEF 20-MINUTE COURTESY CALL JOINTLY ON PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER. CALL OFFERED OPPORTUNITY FOR MUCH PICTURE-TAKING AND SOME DISCUSSION. UNCLEARED MEMCON FOLLOWS SEPTEL. DR. BRZEZINSKI MET WITH PRESIDENT AT 1100. MEETING WAS FOLLOWED BY LUNCH LASTING UNTIL 1400. ALL PARTICIPANTS IN MEETING CURRENTLY ENROUTE TO U.S.
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PARTY DEPARTED SEOUL AT 1445 FOLLOWING VERY BRIEF MEETING WITH THE PRESS BY DR. BRZEZINSKI AT THE AIRPORT.

3. COMMENT: KOREAN SIDE WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI'S VISIT. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE BECAUSE OF THEIR RECENT FEARS THAT AMERICAN VISITORS TO ASIA WERE AVOIDING STOPS IN SEOUL.

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